MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether there is any particular reason for so many accidents during one year?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The question relates to the period from 1930 to 1934 *i. e.* four years and not one year.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know why there were 25 accidents per year?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot give any particular reason. I claim notice.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): Did the Government draw the attention of the Railway authorities to the number of accidents?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information about it at present. I claim notice.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know whether this number of accidents is an abnormal feature of the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway line alone or whether such accidents are common in other railway lines also?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I should think accidents are common in all railways.

Train service between Quilon and Trivandrum.

84. ❋ **MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI** (*Quilon I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of trains running between Quilon and Trivandrum during the periods-January 1932 to 1933 and January 1933 to March 1934;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that some trains from Quilon to Trivandrum and from Trivandrum to Quilon run tender foremost;

(*c*) if so, how many;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the mail train runs engine foremost;

(*e*) whether it is the opinion of competent authorities that there is greater possibility of danger if trains run tender foremost;

(*f*) whether it is the practice elsewhere to run such distance tender foremost; and

(*g*) the reason for allowing trains to run tender foremost?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The member is referred to Railway Time Tables published from time to time.

(*b*) No train worked by a tender engine is worked tender foremost. In the case of trains worked by tank engines, it does not matter if they run engine first or bunker first.

(*c*) The question does not arise in view of answer to (*b*).

(*d*) There are 3 trains daily worked by tank engines bunker first.

(*e*) Yes, but not in the case of tank engines.

(*f*) Yes.

(*g*) Due to want of facilities for turning engines.

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MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether there is a turn-table at Quilon?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I believe there is one.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the Railway authorities have approached the Government for the construction of a new turn-table?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I cannot say. I claim notice.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I ask whether the accidents are not due to the fact that the trains run tender foremost?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Railway authorities say that there is danger only in the case of tender engines and that in the case of tank engines there is no danger even if they run tender foremost.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I ask whether, in tank engines also, the driver does not face the direction opposite to that in which the train runs when the engine runs tender foremost?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): Does that not show that accidents are likely to occur when the train runs with the engine tender foremost?

PRESIDENT: You are getting argumentative.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): This is a technical matter, Sir; and I have already given the opinion of the Railway authorities on it.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know what the member means by 'the train running with the tender foremost'?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have already stated, Sir, that I am not an expert in railway engineering.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): On a point of order, Sir, as to whether delicate technicalities can be introduced during debate here, technicalities which members are not able even to understand.—

PRESIDENT: I had to admit the question, and the available answer has been placed before the House. If the House is not satisfied with the answer furnished, it is open to the members to elicit further information from the official member.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): That is why I asked for the meaning of the expression 'running tender foremost'.

PRESIDENT: I believe the honourable member knows what 'tender' is.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): I submit I do not know that.

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PRESIDENT : I think we will send you to the Railway Station where it can be demonstrated. 'Tender' of an engine is quite an ordinary term. There is nothing very difficult about it. It has nothing to do with tenders submitted by contractors. (*Laughter.*)

Building for the Vernacular Middle School for Girls at Nedumangad.

85. ✻**MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) how long it is since the building for the Vernacular Middle School for Girls at Nedumangad was destroyed ;

(*b*) whether a new site was not acquired by the Department to construct a new building for the purpose ;

(*c*) whether an estimate was called for it and

(*d*) when the building would be constructed ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*) : (*a*) On 12-12-1107.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Yes.

(*d*) Owing to the existing financial stringency, it is not possible to say definitely when the building will be constructed.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : How long is it since the new site was acquired ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*) : Just over one year.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : When did the estimate for the construction reach the Director ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*) : It has not reached the Director yet.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know when the Director would get the estimate for the construction and when the work would be started ?

PRESIDENT : You will find the answer in part (*d*) of the answer. It depends upon financial possibilities. The Director cannot say more than that.

Waiting lists in the Education Department.

86. ✻**MR. G. NILAKANTAN** (*Nominated*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) if the Director of Public Instruction has recommended to Government that the waiting lists maintained in the offices under him be scraped ; and

(*b*) if the answer to part (*a*) is in the affirmative, why the recommendation is not sanctioned ?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) :

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) It is under consideration.

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